Adobe Illustrator: An Introduction to Illustrator – Course Outline – (3 - Days)

Getting to Know the Work Area

- Understanding the workspace
- Adjusting the user interface brightness
- Working with the Tools panel
- Exploring the Control panel
- Working with panels
- Resetting and saving your workspace
- Using panel menus
- Changing the view of artwork
- Using the Zoom tool
- Scrolling through a document
- Viewing artwork
- Navigating multiple artboards
- Using the Navigator panel
- Understanding rulers
- Arranging multiple documents
- Exploring document groups

Selecting and Aligning

- Selecting objects
- Using the Selection tool
- Using the Direct Selection tool
- Creating selections with a marquee
- Creating selections with the Magic Wand tool
- Selecting similar objects
- Aligning objects
- Aligning objects to each other
- Aligning to a key object
- Aligning points
- Distributing objects
- Aligning to the artboard
- Working with groups
- Grouping items
- Working in Isolation mode
- Adding to a group
- Exploring object arrangement
- Arranging objects
- Selecting objects behind

- Hiding objects
- Applying selection techniques

Creating and Editing Shapes

- Creating a new document
- Working with basic shapes
- Understanding drawing modes
- Creating rectangles
- Creating rounded rectangles
- Creating ellipses
- Creating polygons
- Working with Draw Behind mode
- Creating stars
- Changing stroke width and alignment
- Working with line segments
- Joining paths
- Using the Width tool
- Outlining strokes
- Combining and editing shapes
- Working with the Shape Builder tool
- Working with Pathfinder effects
- Working with shape modes
- Using Draw Inside mode
- Editing content drawn inside
- Using the Eraser tool
- Using Image Trace to create shapes
- Cleaning up traced artwork

Transforming Objects

- Working with artboards
- Adding artboards to the document
- Editing artboards
- Reordering artboards
- Transforming content
- Working with rulers and guides
- Scaling objects
- Reflecting objects
- Rotating objects
- Distorting objects
- Shearing objects
- Positioning objects precisely

- Changing perspective
- Applying multiple transformations
- Using the Free Distort effect

Drawing with the Pen and Pencil Tools

- Starting with the Pen tool
- Creating straight lines
- Creating curved paths
- Building a curve
- Converting smooth points to corner points
- Creating the violin illustration
- Drawing curves
- Selecting a curved path
- Drawing a curved path
- Drawing a closed path with curves
- Drawing the violin shape
- Creating the strings
- Splitting a path
- Adding arrowheads
- Creating a dashed line
- Editing curves
- Deleting and adding anchor points
- Converting between smooth points and corner points
- Drawing with the Pencil tool
- Editing with the Pencil tool
- Finishing the violin illustration
- Assembling the parts
- Painting the artwork

Color and Painting

- Understanding color
- Color modes
- Understanding the color controls
- Creating color
- Building and saving a custom color
- Editing a swatch
- Using Illustrator swatch libraries
- Creating a spot color
- Using the Color Picker
- Creating and saving a tint of a color
- Copying appearance attributes

- Creating color groups
- Working with the Color Guide panel
- Editing a color group
- Editing colors in artwork
- Working with the Kuler panel
- Assigning colors to your artwork
- Adjusting colors
- Painting with patterns
- Applying existing patterns
- Creating your own pattern
- Applying a pattern
- Editing a pattern
- Working with Live Paint
- Creating a Live Paint group
- Editing Live Paint regions
- Working with gap options

Working with Type

Working with type
Creating point type
Creating area type
Importing a plain text file
Working with overflow text and text reflow
Threading text
Creating columns of text
Formatting type
Changing the font size
Changing the font color
Changing additional text attributes
Working with glyphs
Resizing type objects
Changing paragraph attributes
Creating and applying text styles
Creating and applying a paragraph style
Editing a paragraph style
Sampling text formatting
Creating and applying a character style
Editing a character style
Reshaping text with a preset envelope warp
Reshaping text with an object
Creating text on an open path
Creating text on closed paths

Creating text outlines

Working with Layers

- Creating layers
- Selecting and moving objects and layers
- Duplicating layer content
- Moving layers
- Locking layers
- Viewing layers
- Pasting layers
- Creating a clipping mask
- Merging layers
- Locating layers
- Applying appearance attributes to layers
- Isolating layers

Blending Colors and Shapes

- Working with gradients
- Creating and applying a linear gradient to a fill
- Adjusting the direction and angle of a gradient fill
- Applying a gradient to a stroke
- Editing a gradient on a stroke
- Creating and applying a radial gradient
- Editing the radial gradient color
- Adjusting the radial gradient
- Applying gradients to multiple objects
- Exploring other methods for editing gradient colors
- Adding transparency to gradients
- Working with blended objects
- Creating a blend with specific steps
- Modifying a blend
- Creating and editing smooth color blends

Working with Brushes

- Using Calligraphic brushes
- Editing a brush
- Using a fill color with brushes
- Removing a brush stroke
- Using Art brushes
- Drawing with the Paintbrush tool
- Editing paths with the Paintbrush tool

- Creating an Art brush
- Editing an Art brush
- Using Bristle brushes
- Changing Bristle brush options
- Painting with a Bristle brush
- Using Pattern brushes
- Creating a Pattern brush
- Applying a Pattern brush
- Changing the color attributes of brushes
- Changing a brush color using Tints colorization
- Changing the brush color using Hue Shift colorization
- Working with the Blob Brush tool
- Drawing with the Blob Brush tool
- Merging paths with the Blob Brush tool
- Editing with the Eraser tool